

~~SECRET~~6 July 1959 *Balloon**Powered*

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Visit to [redacted]
California

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1. The undersigned visited the subject company on 23 July and discussed various aspects of a homing glider [redacted] [redacted] inter-
national sailplane champion and president of [redacted] had previously sent an unsolicited proposal to [redacted] describing a "high altitude probe." This system envisioned a high performance glider carried aloft via balloon. Instruments would be carried by the glider and after the collection of data by the instruments the glider would be released. A radio homing mechanism in the glider would allow it to home on a beacon at or near the launch point for recovery of the instruments.

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2. [redacted] stated that the Air Force and Army were considering proposals for such a vehicle and the AEC had already instigated a study program scheduled for completion in July '59. None of the proposed work would result in a glider of the necessary qualities for [redacted] however, and [redacted] agreed to submit a proposal. He stated that he is not an aerodynamicist and he does not have one in his employ. Previous work was done by a consulting aerodynamicist as would be any program sponsored by us. It is believed that although this type of job could be done by almost any aircraft company, [redacted] have an important head start in this field. [redacted] Pasadena agreed to monitor the contract should we choose to use them for a cover agency.

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